

REMARKS**Claim Rejections Under 35 U.S.C. § 103**

Claims 1-6 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable over Seemann III et al. (U.S. Patent No. 5,958,325) in view of Lim (U.S. Patent No. 4,690,682).

Claim 1 is directed to a method of creating an internal channel of a fluid-ejection device. The method includes encapsulating a channel core in an element of the fluid-ejection device that corresponds to the internal channel, and dissolving at least a portion of the channel core.

The Examiner has taken an internal core 82 of Seemann III et al. (Figure 8) as corresponding to the channel core of claim 1. The Examiner indicates that it would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to have modified the method of Seemann III et al. by including dissolving of internal core 82, as taught by Lim. However, Seemann III et al. teaches the formation of composite structures (or parts) from internal cores (internal core 82 of Figure 8, internal core 12 of Figures 1 and 2, etc.) surrounded by fiber reinforced resin (see the abstract, column 1, lines 44-45, and column 2, lines 41-42). That is, the internal core forms a portion of the finished part, as shown in the figures of Seemann III et al., that is reinforced by the fiber reinforced resin. Applicant respectfully submits that there is no suggestion or motivation for modifying Seemann III et al. by dissolving at least a portion of an internal core of Seemann III et al., because the internal core forms part of the finished part, and dissolving at least a portion of the internal core would remove at least a portion that part of the finished part. Therefore, the rejection fails to state a proper *prima facie* case of obviousness under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a). Moreover, there is no indication or suggestion that Seemann III et al. is directed to a method of forming an internal channel of a fluid-ejection device. Therefore, claim 1 is patentably distinct from Seemann III et al.

Moreover, there is no indication or suggestion that Lim is directed to a method of forming an internal channel of a fluid-ejection device. Lim is directed to capsules having a permeable membrane that contains one or more substances, such as drugs, fertilizers, etc. The one or more substances are released from a capsule through its permeable membrane. For one embodiment, a capsule contains a solid and a solvent for the solid. The solvent dissolves the solid and the resulting solute passes through the permeable membrane of the capsule. This is different than forming an internal channel of a fluid-ejection device. Therefore, Seemann III et

al. in combination with Lim fails to overcome the deficiencies of Seemann III et al. with respect to claim 1. Therefore, claim 1 is allowable over Seemann III et al. in view of Lim.

Claims 2-6 depend from claim 1 and are thus allowable for at least the same reasons as claim 1. Therefore, claims 2-6 should be allowed.

Allowable Subject Matter

Claim 7 was objected to as being dependent upon a rejected base claim, but would be allowable if rewritten in independent form, including all of the limitations of the base claim and any intervening claims. Applicant has not rewritten claim 7. Claim 7 depends from claim 1 and is thus allowable for at least the same reasons as claim 1. Therefore, claim 7 should be allowed.

Applicant acknowledges that claims 8-10 were allowed.

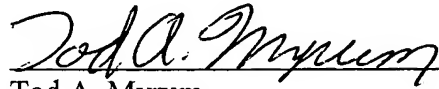
CONCLUSION

In view of the above remarks, Applicant believes that all pending claims are in condition for allowance and respectfully requests a Notice of Allowance be issued in this case. Please charge any further fees deemed necessary or credit any overpayment to Deposit Account No.08-2025.

If the Examiner has any questions or concerns regarding this application, please contact the undersigned at (612) 312-2208.

Respectfully submitted,

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